



Week of July 1 – July 7, 2009

#### **Fourth of July Safety**

The Air Force developed the 101 Critical Days of Summer (CDS) campaign in the late 1960's to counter the traditional increase in mishaps and fatalities during the summer months. This year, our CDS initiative "Together we are Saving Lives this Summer" began on 25 May and ends 7 September 2009.

Every Airman is critical to our Air Force mission. We cannot afford to lose even one of you to preventable incidents. Each and every loss impacts the family, friends and unit of all involved. Through teamwork, we can reduce the number of mishaps and fatalities.

The Air Force traditionally experiences the highest number of fatalities always between the 1-7 July timeframe. Although we put up a good fight and last year was our one of our safest summers ever, we still lost too many Airmen to preventable mishaps.

Keep the following themes in mind as you are planning your Fourth of July and other summer activities:

- Identify the risks. Many of us are excited about the upcoming 4th of July weekend and may add an extra day onto this holiday. This well-deserved time off brings increased risks to include travel, water-related sports, outdoor activities, social gatherings, and fireworks
- Plan ahead. I encourage you to use the mishap prevention tools available through your unit safety representatives, wing/installation, and MAJCOM safety offices. The Air Force Safety Center portal page also contains many additional safety tools and information and is updated weekly
- Don't let your guard down! Throughout the remaining summer, be proactive by identifying and managing risks on- and off-duty. Expect to be reminded of key safety tips through commander's calls, base newspapers, publications and supervisors. Use these resources and be a life saver.

Every Airman should be a safety leader. Be vigilant during the remaining summer weeks and throughout the year. Stay safe and enjoy the long weekend with your friends and family. If the situation presents itself, have the courage to intervene before a mishap can occur—doing so may save a life this summer!

Find Airman's Roll Call Online Here: <http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/>

*Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.*